



## WELCOME HOME' FOR THE TRUMANS

Mrs. Harry S. Truman, wife of the President, is shown receiving a formal bouquet from her daughter, Margaret, as she arrived at Independence, Mo., last night for a summer family home. Her mother, Mrs. Mary Margaret, is at right.

AP Wirephoto

## First Family Arrives for Missouri Visit



Mrs. Harry S. Truman, wife of the President, and her daughter, Margaret, arrive for their first visit to their home in Independence, Mo., since Mr. Truman took office.

AP Wirephoto

St. Louis Post Dispatch

Summer 1945

## THE FIRST LADY DIGS IN

HOUSEKEEPING STARTS EARLY  
AT SUMMER HOME.

Wallpaper Samples Are Scrapped  
to Prepare for Another Photo  
of Renovating — Enjoy  
Breakfast.

Mrs. Bess Truman and her mother, Mrs. D. W. Wallace, were up early today at the summer White House, 218 North Delaware Street, Independence.

Margaret Truman, and her son, Mike, slept late—at least Margaret did.

### POSS POINTS TO SURPRISE,

Mrs. Truman and her mother had spent the night in the home. This morning they had bacon and butter for breakfast—the first in a long time. Relatives had pooled red points to provide this welcome-home surprise.

Orrville Campbell, general contractor on the job of renovating the home, found Mrs. Truman and Mrs. Wallace ready and waiting when he arrived early with a box of wallpaper samples.

The two women, Bess in fresh-cotton house dresses, sat down to go over the big wallpaper book.

Shortly before 10 o'clock, Margaret Truman hurried up the back yard from the Frank Wallace home where she had spent the night and had breakfast. Her uncle, Frank, and also her uncle, George Wallace, live just behind the corner Truman home at 601 and 603 West Van Horn road, respectively.

### MEET GRETCHEN HIS MISTRESS.

Although the sun was setting in the sky by that time, the air was chilly and she wore a small yellow three-quarter length cotton coat over a full-skirted light blue cotton dress. She wore stockings and white fluffy roses. She went to the kitchen and got a silver crockery dish of breakfast for Mike, who still was locked in the doghouse.

Secret service men were patrolling the backyard. She stopped to talk with them briefly as she sat the back porch; then went to the white dog house at the end of the back porch and opened the door.

The red setter burst out eagerly, then scampered and jumped up at his mistress. Soon the puppy was busy with breakfast.

Louise's car aged against the big house. Painters were busy finishing the rear of the home and the back porch, and beginning on another coat for the rest of the house.

PAINTED IT 40 YEARS AGO.

Harry D. Snider, 414 West Lexington street, one of the painters on the job, helped paint the house forty years ago when he was just a painter's helper.

"Last time it was painted until now," Snider speculated, pointing out the dry frame structure soaked up a lot of paint.

Vletta Gair, Negro cook for the Trumans for sixteen years, but recently employed at the fountain at a drug store hurried up to the Truman home this morning, opened the back door and went in.

She didn't say whether she had built her drug store job, which she still held Saturday nights. She merely indicated she was "going to interview the Trumans."

A THOROUGH HOUSE JOB.

Campbell, the contractor, said Howard A. McFarlin, 111 Sterling Avenue, a professional house cleaner, today made a contract with Mrs. Truman to clean the entire house as soon as painters and paper hangers are through. Windows and woodwork and some walls will be washed, floors waxed and carpets and rugs cleaned, and fresh curtains will be hung, along with the general spring house cleaning job.

There also are three fireplaces to be gone over, with chunners to clean and marble mantels to wash. One

is in the master bedroom upstairs, another is in the dining room and the third is in the "parlor," where President Truman had his piano and used to play while Margaret sang before he went to Washington. This room, used as a den, has a bedroom and bath near by and could be used as a suite for any distinguished visitor, who might visit the summer White House. All the fireplaces are wood-burning.

### A BUS DRIVER WAVES.

As soon as it was light this morning, many pedestrians and motorists apparently had business which required them to pass the Truman house. Some stared, some looked out of the corner of their eyes and others leaned out of cars to see the same house they had seen through the years, but hoping for a glance at the returned residents.

One large yellow suburban bus passed in front of the home. The driver had one arm waving and the other hand on the wheel. The passengers all were looking out the left-hand windows as the bus rolled slowly past the Truman home.



## A FLURRY BY TRUMANS

FAMILY SETTLES DOWN TO REARRANGING THE HOME.

Shifting of Furniture Is Directed by First Lady, While Painters and Tanners Work Outside.

While rain dripped from tall elms and soft maple on raincoated secret service men outside today, Mrs. Bess Truman had a furniture-shifting day in the home at 218 North Delaware Avenue, Independence.

Tanners continued the replacement of gutters and spouts outside the old summer White House, but painters took to woodwork and sheet-painting jobs in the home.

About 10:30 o'clock the Collins Furniture Moving and Storage company, 11701 Winner road, sent a large van to the front of the home. Six workmen went to the house and carried from the iron door a large upholstered chair and a large walnut cupboard, which were placed in the van.

The van then was driven up the back drive from West Van Horn road into the yard and near the back porch.

Workmen added to the contents of the van an electric washer, a small red toy automobile, several large clothes hamper, a wicker table, several barrels and two old trunks. These apparently were the excess possessions of the Fred Wallace family, stored there when they moved to Denver and obtained a furnished apartment. The toy automobile probably belongs to David Wallace, small son of Fred Wallace, who spent the summer with his grandmother two years ago. The van roared off to the storage headquarters.

Four of the workmen remained in the home, where front blinds were pulled down and electric lights were on. They were shifting furniture here and there, with Mrs. Truman directing them.